



RAINY DAY RAIMENT.

Mrs. Grannis' Ideas of the Proper Costume For Stormy Weather.

An interesting discussion on improved and hygienic dress was recently held in Madison Square Concert hall before a large audience of women, the subject for the day being "The Rainy Day Dress," Mrs. E. B. Grannis, the president of the National Christian League, appeared on the platform in what she considers the proper costume for stormy weather. It was a simple black dress, the striking feature of which was the extreme shortness of the skirt, it reaching only part way down the calf of the leg. "Perhaps," said Mrs. Grannis as she turned about to give every one a good view, "you think it doesn't need raising. Well, it doesn't." In describing the outfit she said she wore first a union suit of all silk, over this one of silk and wool, as she needed warmth, then a pair of black silk tourist's trousers coming just below the knee, and over all the short skirt. The coat and legs look comfortable and trim in leggings or Polish boots reaching above the knee, made of fine cloth.

A Voice—If a woman has pretty feet and legs, all right.

"I believe a great many women think that," replied Mrs. Grannis. "I wear a No. 4B, and I can go to sleep in my shoes as well as in my bonnet, and in my bonnet as well as in my stockings. Fleshy women look well in the dress."

Another Voice—I don't believe it.

Mrs. Grannis—There is Miss Bates of Michigan, who is large and stately. She looks remarkably well in the dress. It is only the poor little snippety women who suffer.

Miss E. Marguerite Lindley, the chairman, who was also on the platform, said that, according to her experience, which had been gained in the gymnasium, it was the trimming of the waist that made the suit becoming or unbecoming. Fleshy women always diminished when the gymnasium suit was suggested, and when they donned it they felt uncomfortable. But she discovered that when they could make the waist as their fancy dictated, with pretty trimmings and pretty sleeves, they were at ease and the effect was good.

Mrs. Grannis added: "Some one once said to me, 'But are you with your dress reform going to take away all the sweet womanliness of lace and ruffles?' Knit and lace are not for rainy days, where they are bedraggled and disgruntled until there is no sweetness or daintiness about them."

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EARLY SPRING WRAPS.

The figure on the right shows a gown of the new twilled cashmere. The wrap is of black, embroidered with black and gold. The central figure shows a made-of-cloth, taffeta finished wrap. The coat has a short cape, pointed in the front and back, made of the same material. The bottom figure shows a dress of gray faille, trimmed with garnet bands. The short cape is of cherry red velvet, with trimmings of madras and passementerie.

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